

We claim:

1. A medical bandaging product, comprising a rib-knitted fabric constructed of synthetic yarns selected from the group consisting of acrylic, polyester and polypropylene yarns; and an effective amount of a water-repelling treatment applied to the fabric for imparting water-repellent characteristics to the fabric.
2. A medical bandaging product according to claim 1, wherein said rib-knitted fabric is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending longitudinally along the length of the tube.
3. A medical bandaging product according to claim 1, wherein said rib-knitted fabric is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending radially around the periphery of the tube.
4. A medical bandaging product according to claim 4, and including an elastic yarn incorporated into the fabric to provide elasticity to the fabric.
5. A medical bandaging product according to claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein said medical bandaging product comprises a cast liner for being positioned over a limb to be treated and under a cast material.

6. A splint product in roll form for being dispensed in predetermined lengths suitable for a given medical use, comprising:

(a) an elongate sleeve formed of moisture-impervious material and sealable to prevent entry of moisture;

(b) an elongate medical material positioned in said sleeve and sealed therein against entry of moisture until use, said medical material comprising:

(i) a substrate;

(ii) a reactive system impregnated into or coated onto said substrate, said system remaining stable when maintained in substantially moisture-free conditions and hardening upon exposure to sufficient moisture to form a rigid, self supporting structure; and

(iii) a soft, flexible, protective tubular wrapping enclosing said substrate along its length to provide a cushioning barrier between the substrate and the skin of a patient when the material is in use, said soft, flexible protective wrapping comprising a rib-knitted fabric constructed of synthetic yarns selected from the group consisting of acrylic, polyester and polypropylene yarns; and

(c) means for resealing said sleeve against entry of moisture after a predetermined length of said bandaging product has been dispensed for use to prevent hardening of said substrate remaining in said sleeve.

7. A splint product according to claim 6, wherein said rib-knitted fabric of the protective wrapping is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending longitudinally along the length of the tube.

8. A splint product according to claim 6, wherein said rib-knitted fabric of the protective wrapping is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending radially around the periphery of the tube.
9. A splint product according to claim 8, and including an elastic yarn incorporated into the fabric to provide elasticity to the fabric.
10. A medical bandaging product, comprising a knitted fabric constructed of synthetic yarns selected from the group consisting of acrylic, polyester and polypropylene yarns, said fabric having a knit structure wherein a major surface of the fabric comprises regular courses and wales of soft, deformable tufts defined by yarn loops extending outwardly above a base of the fabric.
11. A medical bandaging product according to claim 10, and including an elastic yarn incorporated into the fabric to provide elasticity to the fabric.
12. A medical bandaging product according to claim 11, and including an effective amount of a water-repelling treatment applied to the fabric for imparting water-repellent characteristics to the fabric.

13. A medical bandaging product according to claim 10, 11 and 12, and comprising a cast liner for being positioned over a limb to be treated and under a cast material.

14. A splint product in roll form for being dispensed in predetermined lengths suitable for a given medical use, comprising:

(a) an elongate sleeve formed of moisture-impervious material and sealable to prevent entry of moisture;

(b) an elongate medical material positioned in said sleeve and sealed therein against entry of moisture until use, said medical material comprising:

(i) a substrate;

(ii) a reactive system impregnated into or coated onto said substrate, said system remaining stable when maintained in substantially moisture-free conditions and hardening upon exposure to sufficient moisture to form a rigid, self supporting structure; and

(iii) medical bandaging product comprising a soft, flexible protective wrapping enclosing said substrate along its length to provide a cushioning barrier between the substrate and the skin of a patient when the material is in use, said soft, flexible protective wrapping comprising a rib-knitted fabric constructed of synthetic yarns selected from the group consisting of acrylic, polyester and polypropylene yarns; and

(c) means for resealing said sleeve against entry of moisture after a predetermined length of said bandaging product has been dispensed for use to prevent hardening of said substrate remaining in said sleeve.

15. A splint product according to claim 14, wherein said rib-knitted fabric of the protective wrapping is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending longitudinally along the length of the tube.

16. A splint product according to claim 14, wherein said rib-knitted fabric of the protective wrapping is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending radially around the periphery of the tube.

17. A cast liner, comprising a rib-knitted fabric constructed of synthetic yarns selected from the group consisting of acrylic, polyester and polypropylene yarns, and an effective amount of a water-repelling treatment applied to the fabric for imparting water-repellent characteristics to the fabric.

18. A medical bandaging product according to claim 17, wherein said rib-knitted fabric is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending longitudinally along the length of the tube.

19. A medical bandaging product according to claim 17, wherein said rib-knitted fabric is circular-knitted to define a tube, with ribs extending radially around the periphery of the tube.

20. A medical bandaging product according to claim 19, and including an elastic yarn incorporated into the fabric to provide elasticity to the fabric.